



Mayor Mark Mallory

City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street, Room 150, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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Contact: Jason Barron, 513-352-5356

Mayor Mallory Holds Cincinnati Small Business Roundtable with U.S. Senator John Kerry

Mallory and Kerry also met to discuss the federal budget

Cincinnati – Mayor Mark Mallory hosted a roundtable discussion with Cincinnati small business owners and US Senator John Kerry today at the Montgomery Inn Boathouse. The roundtable featured a lively discussion about the importance of vibrant small businesses to the local economy, the challenges that face small businesses, and potential solutions at both the federal and local level to help small businesses succeed.

“Successful small businesses are a vital component to a healthy business climate. They make up an important part of the character and charm of Cincinnati,” Mayor Mallory said. “Small business face unique challenges in our increasingly global economy. We need to identify ways that we can help them overcome these challenges and thrive.”

Prior to the roundtable, the Mayor and Senator Kerry met at City Hall. Mallory briefed Senator Kerry on Cincinnati’s priorities for the 2007 federal budget. Last month, the mayor traveled to Washington to lobby the Southwest Ohio Congressional Delegation on behalf of the city.

Seventeen small business owners and representatives of local small business organizations attended the hour-long discussion with the Mayor and the Senator. The attendees shared their experiences as local business owners and discussed challenges at the federal level to operating their businesses. Senator Kerry explained his priorities at the federal level and discussed his vision for improving small businesses across the nation. Mayor Mallory emphasized the importance of the city partnering with locally owned businesses to give them the support and assistance that they need.

“Cincinnati business owners know what it takes to grow local economies and create jobs. They need a government that’s on their side, a government that offers comprehensive and innovative strategies to close the ‘wealth gap,’ and makes serious investments in education, business counseling, technological innovation, and the infrastructure of our cities so that small firms and minority and women-owned firms can grow and contribute to our economy,” said John Kerry, Ranking Democrat on the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

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